

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

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R 202138Z MAY 74

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4171

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1879

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR KE

SUBJ: MR. OMAR AHMED FAKIH, KENYAN AMBASSADOR-  
DESIGNATE TO EGYPT

1. OMAR AHMED FAKIH, BORN NOVEMBER 5, 1932 IN MOMBASA, KENYA, IS SCHEDULED TO DEPART NEW YORK IN JUNE 1974 TO TAKE UP HIS NEW POSTING AS KENYA'S AMBASSADOR TO EGYPTIAN ARAB REPUBLIC. FAKIH HAS SERVED AS KENYA'S DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO UNITED NATIONS SINCE APRIL 1973. DURING HIS STAY IN NEW YORK, KENYA WAS A NON-PERMANENT MEMBER OF SECURITY COUNCIL. THUS, FAKIH WAS QUITE WELL-KNOWN TO MANY MEMBERS OF USUN, WHO FOUND HIM TO BE A TOUGH BUT REASONABLE NEGOTIATOR. HE IS A VERY OPEN, STRAIGHT-FORWARD INDIVIDUAL, WHO HAS SET IDEAS ON SUCH QUESTIONS AS MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA, BUT IS AT LEAST WILLING TO LISTEN TO ARGUMENTATION.

2. THERE SEEMED TO HAVE BEEN SOME FRICTION BETWEEN FAKIH AND FORMER KENYAN PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE, JOSPEH ODERO-JOWI. WHETHER THIS WAS SIMPLY BASED ON TRIBAL FRICTION (O-J IS LUO, FAKIH KIKUYU) IS UNCERTAIN. WHEN ODERO-JOWI DEPARTED NEW YORK IN NOVEMBER 1973, HE FAILED TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE FOREIGN OFFICE TO SEND FAKIH, WHO WAS CHARGE, AN ADEQUATE STAFF FOR HIS MISSION. THUS, FAKIH WAS FORCED TO RUN HIS MISSION FOR APPROXIMATELY SIX  
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MONTHS WITH ONLY THREE WORKING OFFICERS.

3. FAKIH AND HIS WIFE, MUNIRA, HAVE TWO SONS, AHMED AND ABDULLAH, AND TWO DAUGHTERS, TAUNIDA AND TANWIRA, WHO HAVE ATTENDED SCARSDALE SCHOOLS. MRS. FAKIH TOOK AN ACTIVE ROLE IN NEW YORK SOCIAL LIFE. THEY BOTH SPEAK EXCELLENT ENGLISH AND HE SPEAKS ARABIC IN ADDITION TO SWAHILI. IN ADDITION TO NEW YORK, FAKIH HAS SERVED IN LONDON.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GarlanWA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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